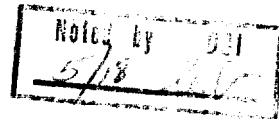


COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, INC.  
THE HAROLD PRATT HOUSE 58 EAST 68TH STREET  
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

April 29, 1953



Dear Allen:

I regret that my tour of Texas prevented me from calling you, but I am delighted to have a report from Shep Stone that you will participate in our study group.

We plan, as you know, to discuss, study and, if feasible, to make proposals concerning the problems of the relationship between the democratic nations and the U.S.S.R. This study will be undertaken at the Council on Foreign Relations under a grant of the Ford Foundation. The group will have a full-time staff to aid it in its work. This staff will be under Professor Henry Roberts who is on leave from Columbia University for two years.

At our initial meetings I should like to try to reach agreement on the problems to be discussed. It is contemplated that we will want to look into such questions as the so-called Soviet peace offensive and time-table, the status of our own defenses, the strength which we should have to meet desired objectives, the problem of control of armaments including atomic weapons, the question of the Soviet Union's long-range political aims as well as capabilities, the conditions and terms under which a peaceful relationship might be possible.

It is believed that funds can be provided for research on problems on which added knowledge is necessary to the group's work and for other activities. Though the group will be entirely unofficial, its findings will be made available to our government. From inquiries I have already made it is apparent that the government will be greatly interested in our work. Moreover, the group may want to discuss the desirability of publication for the general public.

I am asking the group to meet for the first time informally for a dinner discussion at the Council at six p.m. on May 6, 1953. I am sorry that you cannot participate in the first meeting, but we would be delighted to have Bob Amory with us. We shall count on him for May 6.

The problems which the group will discuss will be central to the existence of the free world. The composition of the group is such that its conclusions should be of value.

Sincerely,

  
John J. McCloy

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Mr. Allen W. Dulles  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C.

